

Message Text

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S E C R E T SANTO DOMINGO 0361

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XL

SUBJECT: DRAFT SUB-REGIONAL CASP FOR THE CARIBBEAN

1. BEYOND COMMENTS TRANSMITTED DIRECTLY BY AMBASSADOR WHILE IN WASHINGTON FOR COM CONFERENCE, EMBASSY HAS NO MAJOR SUGGESTIONS ON SUBJECT DRAFT, WHICH FOCUSES MORE ON COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES AND ISLANDS THAN ON OTHER COUNTRIES OF REGION. FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT, PAPER APPEARS GENERALLY TO BE A COMPREHENSIVE AND SOUND ASSESSMENT OF THE MAIN CONSIDERATIONS AND ISSUES INVOLVED IN OUR REALTIONS WITH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES AND ITS RECOMMENDATIONS SEEM WELL-CONCEIVED. FOLLOWING ARE A FEW THOUGHTS WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL TO REVIEW OF PAPER.

2. P. 5: INCLUDE INEQUITABLE INCOME DISTRIBUTION AMONG SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

3. P. 11: FROM OUR PERSPETIVE, ASSERTION AT BOTTOM OF PAGE AND AT OTHER POINTS IN PAPER CONCERNING DETERIORATION OF SITUATION IN REGION SEEM OVERSTATED. PERHAPS A QUALIFYING PHRASE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO INDICATE THAT THERE ARE HOPEFUL INDICATORS IN SOME COUNTRIES.

4. P. 17: RECOMMENDATION MIGHT INCLUDE REFERENCE TO
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DESIRABILITY OF ARA ASST. SECY AND/OR DEPUTY CHARGED WITH

CARIBBEAN MAKING TOUR OF AREA ON REGULAR BASIS.

5. P. 19 (ASSUMPTION 4): ADD SENTENCE TO EFFECT THAT BECAUSE OF ADVANTAGES OF PROXIMITY TO US, EXCHANGE RATES IN RELATION TO THOSSZOF EUROPE, ETC. TOURISM IN AREA STILL HAS CONSIDERABLE POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OVER LONG TERM. (IT HAS BEEN STEADILY INCREASING IN D.R.)

6. PP. 24-27: SPECIFY IDB AND IBRD, AS WELL AS CDB, AS REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS WHOSE ROLE IN FOSTERING DEVELOPMENT OF LDC'S IN AREA WE SHOULD SUPPORT.

7. P. 33-34: REPHRASE ASSUMPTION 10 TO PUT MORE POSITIVE LIGHT ON PUERTO RICO'S POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION IN AREA, E.G.: "WHILE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES MAY REMAIN MIS-TRUSTFUL OF PUERTO RICAN TIES WITH THE U.S. AND SOME ELEMENTS IN THE CARIBBEAN WILL FAVOR PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE, SOME PUERTO RICAN INVOLVEMENT IN CARIBBEAN AFFAIRS WILL PROBABLY BE WELCOMED," ADD TO RECOMMENDATION REFERENCE TO PROMOTING THE ROLE OF PUERTO RICO IN THE CARIBBEAN IN FURTHERANCE OF US INTERESTS, E.G. IN EXPANDING US EXPORTS AND CONTRIBUTING TO DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.
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